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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Fifty-second session
(21-24 April 1997)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIFTY-SECOND SESSION

to be held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 3 p.m. on Monday, 21 April 1997

1. Inauguration of the Jubilee Session and Adoption of the Agenda

2. Strengthening of economic cooperation in the ECE region: Declaration on the Strengthening of Economic Cooperation in Europe — E/ECE/1346, E/ECE/1347

3. Diversification of the form and methods of the Commission's activities designed to assist the integration of the countries in transition into the European and global economy — E/ECE/1348

4. ECE cooperation and partnership: — E/ECE/1349

   (a) Cooperation between the ECE and the OSCE

   (b) Economic cooperation in the Mediterranean

   (c) Cooperation and coordination of activities with other organizations and institutions and subregional groupings active in the ECE region

   (d) Cooperation between the ECE and the NGOs and business communities

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5. The work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies: E/ECE/1350

   (a) Matters of common interest to ECE subsidiary bodies as well as those arising from the work of the subsidiary bodies which require attention or decision by the Commission

   (b) Programme of work for the period 1997-1998 E/ECE/1351

   (c) ECE proposed programme budget for 1998-1999

   (d) Resolutions and decisions of ECOSOC and the General Assembly which have a bearing on the work of ECE E/ECE/1352

6. Adoption of the programme of work/decisions

7. Election of Officers

8. Other business

9. Annual Report of the Commission

EXPLANATORY NOTES TO AGENDA AND TIMETABLE

General

1. The dates of 21 to 24 April 1997 have been reserved for the fifty-second session of the Commission. In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the documents referred to in the Provisional Agenda will, wherever possible, be transmitted to Governments not less than forty-two days before the opening of the session, i.e. not later than 10 March 1997. The time allotted for the various items has been shortened in keeping with the decision contained in Chapter III of the Plan of Action to reduce the length of the Commission's sessions.

Policy Segment: Monday afternoon to Thursday morning inclusive (21-24 April)

Monday afternoon, 21 April: High Level Segment

Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

Item 2: Strengthening of economic cooperation in the ECE region: Declaration on the strengthening of economic cooperation in Europe

2. The high level segment will commence with the opening address by the Secretary-General, as well as statements by a Head of State, the President of the Commission and the Executive Secretary.

3. These statements will be followed by a high level Round Table discussion devoted to "Avoiding break lines in Europe: technical answers to political problems".

4. The Round Table will be followed by statements of delegations on, inter alia, the reform process and how the new strategic directions to be adopted might promote a better integrated Europe. These statements should not exceed five-six minutes.

Tuesday morning, 22 April: High Level Segment

5. The Commission will continue to hear statements by those delegations wishing to speak under this item. The meeting will culminate with the adoption of the Declaration on the Strengthening of Economic Cooperation in Europe (E/ECE/1346), as called for in decision 1 (1995-S).

Tuesday afternoon, 22 April

6. Under agenda item 2, the secretariat will make a presentation of the Economic Survey of Europe in 1996-1997. In view of the special nature of the Jubilee Session, as well as its reduced length, no general debate will be held on the main issues contained in the Survey. Rather, the presentation will be

followed by a second round table discussion on "ECE: forging partnerships between governments, enterprises and NGOs", involving participants from these various partners of economic cooperation.

7. Those delegations which wish to comment on the Survey or on the economic situation in their country may provide the secretariat with sufficient copies (70) so that this can be distributed during the session.

Item 3: Diversification of the forms and methods of the Commission's activities designed to assist the integration of the countries in transition into the European and global economy (decision C (51))

8. The Executive Secretary will present the report (E/ECE/1348) called for in decision C (51). Owing to the limited time available for consideration of this item, delegations are requested to refrain from making general statements but rather to limit themselves to specific observations and proposals for action.

Wednesday morning, 23 April

Item 3: (cont.) Diversification of the forms and methods of the Commission's activities designed to assist the integration of the countries in transition into the European and global economy (decision C (51))

Item 4: ECE cooperation and partnership

9. The Executive Secretary will present the report (E/ECE/1349) requested in decisions B (51), D (51) and E (51). Owing to the limited time available for consideration of this item, delegations are requested to refrain from making general statements but rather to limit themselves to specific observations and proposals for action.

Wednesday afternoon, 23 April: Programme and Coordination Segment

Item 5: The work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies for 1997-1998

10. The work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies will be discussed in the framework of the agreed reform proposals contained in the Plan of Action (E/ECE/1347). An exchange of views will be held with the Chairpersons of the subsidiary bodies on the implementation of the reform and the subsidiary bodies will be asked to adjust their programmes of work as necessary in conformity with the proposals and resources likely to be available in the 1998-1999 biennium. In this connection, the Executive Secretary will advise the Commission orally as to whether the proposed programme budget of the Secretary-General has been published and, if so, will brief the Commission on its contents.

11. The Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1350 will provide information on the progress made in implementing decisions F (51), G (51) and H (51) concerning, respectively, cooperation in the field of environment and sustainable development, transport, and energy. The same document will

provide a brief overview of key issues/important events in respect of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission.

12. The Commission's draft programme of work for the period 1997-1998 will be before the Commission in document E/ECE/1351, which will also contain other factual information regarding meetings, reports and documentation, as required by decision O (45).

13. The Commission will also have before it the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/1352 containing information on relevant resolutions adopted by ECOSOC and the General Assembly since the close of the fifty-first session which request action by the Commission or have a bearing on its work.

Policy Segment: Wednesday afternoon 23 April

Item 6: Adoption of the programme of work/decisions

Thursday morning, 24 April

Item 7: Election of Officers

Item 8: Other business

Item 9: Annual report of the Commission

Closure of the session.

SUMMARY TABLE

Date	Agenda Item	ECE Documents
High Level Policy Segment Monday, 21 April: afternoon	1. Inauguration of Jubilee Session - Adoption of the Agenda	E/ECE/1345
	2. Strengthening of economic cooperation in the ECE region: Declaration on the strengthening of economic cooperation in Europe	E/ECE/1346 E/ECE/1347
	(a) Key note speeches by the Secretary-General, Chairman of the Commission and Executive Secretary	
	(b) High-Level Round Table on "Avoiding break lines in Europe: technical answers to political problems"	
	(c) Speeches by delegations	
Tuesday, 22 April: morning	2. Strengthening of economic cooperation in the ECE region: Declaration on the Strengthening of Economic Cooperation in Europe (continued)	
	(d) Speeches by delegations	
	(e) Adoption of the Declaration on the Strengthening of Economic Cooperation in Europe	
Policy Segment Tuesday, 22 April: afternoon	2. Strengthening of economic cooperation in the ECE region: Declaration on the strengthening of economic cooperation in Europe (continued)	Overview by secretariat
	(a) Presentation of the Economic Survey of Europe in 1996-1997	
	(b) Round Table on "ECE: forging partnerships between governments, enterprises and NGOs"	
	3. Diversification of the forms and methods of the Commission's activities designed to assist the integration of the countries in transition into the European and global economy	

Date	Agenda Item	ECE Documents
Wednesday, 23 April: morning	3. Diversification of the forms and methods of the Commission's activities designed to assist the integration of the countries in transition into the European and global economy (continued)	E/ECE/1348
	4. ECE cooperation and partnership	E/ECE/1349
	(a) Cooperation between the ECE and OSCE	
	(b) Economic cooperation in the Mediterranean	
	(c) Cooperation and coordination of activities with other organizations and institutions and sub-regional groupings active in the ECE region	
	(d) Cooperation between the ECE and the NGOs and business communities	
Programme and Coordination Segment Wednesday, 23 April: afternoon	5. The work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies for 1997-1998	E/ECE/1350 E/ECE/1351 E/ECE/1352
Policy Segment Wednesday, 23 April: afternoon	6. Adoption of the programme of work/decisions	
Thursday, 24 April: morning	7 Election of officers	
	8. Other business	
	9. Annual Report of the Commission	